

Introduced by Senator MachadoFebruary 24, 2006

An act to amend Section 1242 of the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1795, as introduced, Machado. Groundwater recharge.

Under existing law, the right to water or to the use of water is limited to that amount of water that may be reasonably required for the beneficial use to be served. Existing law declares that the storing of water underground, and related diversions for that purpose, constitute a beneficial use of water if the stored water is thereafter applied to the beneficial purposes for which the appropriation for storage was made.

This bill would declare that the recharging of a groundwater basin for the purpose of storage, and related diversions for that purpose, constitutes a beneficial use of water if the recharge is consistent with management objectives set forth in a local agency's groundwater management plan.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1242 of the Water Code is amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 1242. (a) The storing of water underground, including the
- 4 diversion of streams and the flowing of water on lands necessary
- 5 to the accomplishment of—~~such~~ *the* storage, constitutes a
- 6 beneficial use of water if the water so stored is thereafter applied

1 to the beneficial purposes for which the appropriation for storage
2 was made.
3 *(b) The recharging of a groundwater basin for the purpose of*
4 *storage, and the diversion of streams, the flowing of water on*
5 *lands, or the use of other similar methods to accomplish the*
6 *recharge, constitutes a beneficial use of water if the recharge is*
7 *consistent with management objectives set forth in a local*
8 *agency's groundwater management plan.*

O